REMARKS

The non-final Office Action mailed March 23, 2004 has been reviewed and carefully considered. Claims 1-17 are pending in the application. Claims 1-17 have been canceled. New claims 18-30 have been added.

In paragraph two on page 2 of the Office Action, claims 1-4, 6, 7, 11-13, and 17 were rejected under § 102(b) over Gooray et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,631,685).

In paragraph five on page 2 of the Office Action, claims 5 and 14 were rejected under § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gooray et al.

In paragraph seven on page 3 of the Office Action, claims 8 and 9 were rejected under § 103(a) over Gooray et al. as applied to claim 1 above, and in further view of Johnson (U.S. Patent No. 3,597,567).

In paragraph nine on page 3 of the Office Action, claim 15 was rejected under § 103(a) over Gooray et al. as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Buckley (U.S. Patent No. 5,169,571).

Lastly, in paragraph eleven on page 4 of the Office Action, claim 16 was rejected under § 103(a) over Gooray et al. as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Kasevich (U.S. Patent No. 6,346,693).

Applicants respectfully traverse the §§ 102(b) and 103(a) rejections. In view of the above amendments Applicants respectfully assert that the §§ 102(b) and 103(a) rejections are moot.

Applicants assert that support for the amendments can be found at least in the Application at pages 8 through 18.

Applicants further assert that new claims 18-30 are patentable over the cited Gooray, Johnson, Buckley and Kasevich references. The instant application teaches a honeycomb structure for allowing egress of forced air and for substantially attenuating the electric field in the resonant cavity which is absent from each of Gooray, Johnson, Buckley and Kasevich.

Because Gooray, Johnson, Buckley and Kasevich, alone or in combination, do not teach, disclose or suggest each of the elements of at least claim 18, the §§ 102 and 103 rejections are improper and should be withdrawn.

Appl. No. 10/642,993 BLD920020001US1A/IBMN.029USD1 Amdt. Dated June 11, 2004 Reply to Office Action of March 23, 2004

If appropriate, please charge charge/credit any additional, necessary fees to Deposit Account No. 50-0996 (IBMN.029USD1).

On the basis of the above remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the claims are in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, reconsideration of this application and its allowance are requested.

If a telephone conference would be helpful in resolving any issues concerning this communication, please contact Attorney for Applicants, David W. Lynch, at 651-686-6633 Ext. 116.

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